

What is claimed is:

1. An audio data recording/reproducing apparatus capable of editing audio data made up of a plurality of tracks comprising:

a first storage device that stores audio data, the audio data stored in said first storage device being managed dividedly as one or more partial audio data;

a second storage device that stores track data for each of a plurality of tracks, the track data for each of the tracks including information for associating at least one of the partial audio data, stored in said first storage device, with the track and information for managing a manner of reproducing the partial audio data associated with the track; and

a processor coupled with said first storage device and said second storage device, said processor being adapted to:

perform an editing operation for editing the track data for a desired one of the tracks, in accordance with an editing instruction; and

perform control to store the edited track data for the desired track in said second storage device while preserving the track data before the editing.

2. An audio data recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the editing operation performed by said processor for editing the track data includes

editing a reproduction style of the at least one partial audio data associated with the track through a change, addition or deletion of data.

3. An audio data recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said processor is further adapted to, in accordance with the track data stored in said second storage device, reproduce the partial audio data corresponding to the track data from said first storage device.

4. An audio data recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the track data includes, as the information for managing the manner of reproducing the partial audio data, information defining a use range of one or more partial audio data to be used in the track and information indicative of respective reproduction timing of the one or more partial audio data.

5. An audio data recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 4 wherein the editing operation for editing the track data includes editing for changing the partial audio data, and wherein the editing for changing the partial audio data changes at least one of the information defining the use range of the partial audio data and the information indicative of the reproduction timing of the partial audio data included in the track data.

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6. An audio data recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein when an undoing instruction is given, the track data before the editing stored in said second storage device is used as track data of the track in place of the edited track data.

7. An audio data recording/reproducing apparatus comprising:

a first storage device randomly accessible on a cluster-by-cluster basis, audio data being stored dividedly across a plurality of clusters in such a manner that the audio data amounting to a first data quantity or less than said first quantity are stored in each of the clusters;

a second storage device that stores track data indicating reproduction order of a plurality of clusters to be sequentially reproduced and a particular quantity of audio data to be reproduced for at least one of the plurality of clusters; and

a processor coupled with said first storage device and said second storage device, said processor being adapted to:

when the particular quantity of audio data indicated by the track data is less than a second data quantity in at least one of the clusters, combine the audio data of the one cluster with the audio data of another cluster that precedes or follows the one cluster in the reproduction order; and

preserve the combined audio data in a reproducing

cluster separate from the at least one cluster,
wherein said second data quantity is smaller than said
first data quantity.

8. An audio data recording/reproducing apparatus as
claimed in claim 7 wherein said processor is further
adapted to edit any one of a plurality of clusters
represented by the reproduction order, said plurality of
clusters including a cluster where a data quantity of the
audio data to be reproduced is smaller than said second
data quantity.

9. An audio data recording/reproducing apparatus
comprising:

a first storage device randomly accessible on a
cluster-by-cluster basis, audio data being stored dividedly
across a plurality of clusters in such a manner that the
audio data amounting to a first data quantity or less than
said first quantity are stored in each of the clusters;

a second storage device that stores track data
indicating reproduction order of a plurality of clusters to
be sequentially reproduced and a particular quantity of
audio data to be reproduced for at least one of the
plurality of clusters; and

a processor coupled with said first storage device and
said second storage device, said processor being adapted
to:

read out and reproduce the audio data of the

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clusters from said first storage device, in accordance with the track data stored in said second storage device and in the reproduction order indicated by the track data; and

when a reproducing cluster is prepared for a particular one of the plurality of clusters represented by the reproduction order and when the particular cluster is to be reproduced during reproduction of the plurality of clusters in the reproduction order, read out and reproduce the audio data from the reproducing cluster rather than from the particular cluster.

10. An audio data recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 9 wherein when a data quantity of the particular cluster is less than said second data quantity, the reproducing cluster is used to combine the audio data of the particular cluster with the audio data of another cluster that precedes or succeeds the particular cluster in the reproduction order indicated by the track data and then preserve the combined audio data, and wherein the reproducing cluster is a cluster separate from the particular cluster and said second data quantity is smaller than said first data quantity.

11. An audio data recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 9 wherein said processor is further adapted to edit any one of the plurality of clusters represented by the reproduction order, said plurality of clusters including the particular cluster.

12. An audio data recording/reproducing method capable of editing audio data made up of a plurality of tracks comprising:

a step of storing audio data in a first storage device, the audio data stored in said first storage device being managed dividedly as one or more partial audio data;

a step of storing track data in a second storage device for each of a plurality of tracks, the track data for each of the tracks including information for associating at least one of the partial audio data, stored in said first storage device, with the track and information for managing a manner of reproducing the partial audio data associated with the track;

a step of editing the track data for a desired one of the tracks, in accordance with an editing instruction; and

a step of performing control to store the edited track data for the desired track in said second storage device while preserving the track data before the editing.

13. An audio data recording/reproducing method comprising:

a step of storing, in a first storage device randomly accessible on a cluster-by-cluster basis, audio data dividedly across a plurality of clusters in such a manner that the audio data amounting to a first data quantity or less than said first quantity are stored in each of the

clusters;

a step of storing, in a second storage device, track data indicating reproduction order of a plurality of clusters to be sequentially reproduced and a particular quantity of audio data to be reproduced for at least one of the plurality of clusters;

a step of, when the particular quantity of audio data indicated by the track data is less than a second data quantity in at least one of the clusters, combining the audio data of the one cluster with the audio data of another cluster that precedes or follows the one cluster in the reproduction order; and

a step of preserving the combined audio data in a reproducing cluster separate from the at least one cluster,

wherein said second data quantity is smaller than said first data quantity.

14. An audio data recording/reproducing method comprising:

a step of storing, in a first storage device randomly accessible on a cluster-by-cluster basis, audio data dividedly across a plurality of clusters in such a manner that the audio data amounting to a first data quantity or less than said first quantity are stored in each of the clusters;

a step of storing, in a second storage device, track data indicating reproduction order of a plurality of

clusters to be sequentially reproduced and a particular quantity of audio data to be reproduced for at least one of the plurality of clusters;

a step of reading out and reproducing the audio data of the clusters from said first storage device, in accordance with the track data stored in said second storage device and in the reproduction order indicated by the track data; and

a step of, when a reproducing cluster is prepared for a particular one of the plurality of clusters represented by the reproduction order and when the particular cluster is to be reproduced during reproduction of the plurality of clusters in the reproduction order, reading out and reproducing the audio data from the reproducing cluster rather than from the particular cluster.

15. A computer program comprising computer program code means for performing all the steps of claim 12 when said program is run on a computer.

16. A computer program comprising computer program code means for performing all the steps of claim 13 when said program is run on a computer.

17. A computer program comprising computer program code means for performing all the steps of claim 14 when said program is run on a computer.